

Appl. No. : 09/669,959
Filed : September 26, 2000

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

Applicant herewith confirms the election of the Group I claims. However, the rejection itself is traversed, since there are linking claims that are within the elected group. These linking claims define subject matter that would apparently be within the non-elected group. For example, claim 8 specifies that the hyperlink includes an indication of a referring source. This is similar to the subject matter of claim 11 which also requires that the address include "an indication of the source to produce the address". For these reasons, it is believed that the two groups of claims are linked, and should be examined together. However, applicant agrees that the claims are distinct for patentability purposes.

Claims 1-10, 14-16 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Kamada. Claims 1 and 21 are amended to clarify that the "program" (claim 1) and "programming content" was intended to be content associated with the television, not associated with Internet sites and/or HTML. As amended, these claims are completely patentable over Kamada.

Kamada teaches a system that allows displaying Internet pages on the television. In the first embodiment, a set-top box is associated with the television, and forms a browser screen displaying an HTML document. See generally column 3 lines 65-67, and column 4 lines 43-47 which explains that the navigator program plays an HTML document. A good deal of the teaching in Kamada is about how to navigate within that HTML document. For example, column 8 lines 66 - column 9 line 54

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explains how hotspots within the HTML document are found and used for navigation.

The second embodiment described in column 10 uses the same functionality but builds the circuit into the television set, see generally column 10 lines 15-16.

In all of these operations, the television screen displays an HTML document. See for example column 7 line 52 which explains that the CPU receives an HTML document. Throughout the specification of Kamada, the information is described as being obtained from an HTML document.

Claim 1 has been amended to obviate any possible interpretation that the "program that is currently being displayed" could be an HTML document. Claim 1 covers a system that accesses information from a hyperlink that is associated with the television program, not HTML document, that is currently being displayed on the television. As such, this is a very different system than Kamada. Kamada teaches a way to display Internet on the television screen, apparently for another use of the television screen. It teaches nothing about obtaining information from a hyperlink that is associated with a television program as defined by claim 1. Claim 1 therefore allows a television program to include a hyperlink, and allows the user to browse to the content of that hyperlink. As described in the specification, this allows a user to obtain more information about a hyperlink, for example.

This is not disclosed by Kamada. Kamada only teaches an HTML document. Kamada never teaches getting information from a hyperlink that is associated with the television program as claimed. A television program is different than an HTML document. Therefore, claim 1 should be allowable along with claims that depend therefrom. Each of these dependent claims should be allowable on their own merits.

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For example, claim 2 specifies that the remote communicates with a separate computer and displays the information from a hyperlink on the separate computer. The rejection attempts to read this on the first embodiment, calling the set-top box the separate computer, apparently. However, with all due respect, claim 2 requires accessing information from a hyperlink associated with the television program, and displaying the information on a separate computer. There is only one computer in Kamada. The rejection tries to twist this in a way that reads it on the prior art. However, nowhere is there any teaching or suggestion of getting a hyperlink from the television program, and displaying that on a separate computer. According to Kamada, a hyperlink is always obtained from the same computer that does the display.

Claim 3 specifies a command that causes the information to be displayed at the next start up of the process on the separate computer. Nowhere does Kamada in any way teach or suggest anything about information that is displayed at the next start up, as claimed.

Claim 5 requires both a television program picture and an Internet site represented by the hyperlink both being displayed on the same screen. The rejection states that this is "inherently" taught by Kamada. In order to emphasize the distinctions, claim 5 has been amended to recite that both are displayed at the same time on the same screen. The remaining claims should be allowable for analogous reasons.

Claim 14 was rejected based on similar rationale. As described above, Kamada may display television programs and Internet content on the same screen at different times, but teaches nothing about the claimed feature of "displaying both the original

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content, and contents of the Internet site at the same time" as claimed. Therefore, claim 14 should be allowable along with claims 15 and 16 that depend therefrom.

Claim 21 has been amended to clarify that the programming content is television and defines accessing information associated with a hyperlink that is associated with the television program. As described above, Kamada does not in any way teach or suggest this feature.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

For all of these reasons, it is respectfully suggested that all of the claims should be in condition for allowance. A formal notice of allowance is hence respectfully requested.

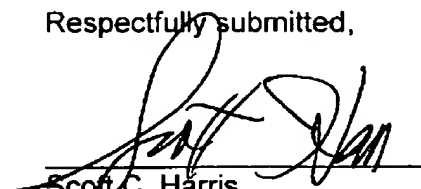
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Respectfully submitted,

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